

*Abies* spp. (Pinaceae.) 39860, 39983-987. Seeds of Japanese firs received through the Arnold Arboretum, Jamaica Plain, Mass., from the collections of Mr. E. H. Wilson. *Abies mariesii* Masters, one of the rarest of silver firs, *A. sachalinensis* (Schmidt) Masters, attaining 130 feet in height, and probably very hardy, *A. umbellata* Mayr, a beautiful hardy tree, and a variety of *A. veitchii* Lindl., with olive yellow cones, an especially handsome small conifer.

*Acer capillipes* Maxim. (Aceraceae.) 39988. Seed of a Japanese maple received through the Arnold Arboretum from the collections of Mr. E. H. Wilson. A handsome maple closely allied to *A. pennsylvanicum*, which it resembles in the shape of its leaf, but is distinguished by its lack of down on leaves and young wood.

*Amygdalus tangutica* (Batal.) Korsh. (Amygdalaceae.) 39898. Cuttings of the Tangutian almond from the village of Lan tsai, Kansu, China. "A bush almond found in rocks and cliffs along the right bank of the Siku river, collected at an elevation of 4200 feet. Shrubs from 4-10 feet high, in sheltered places reaching even a height of 20 to 25 feet, densely branched, branches often running zigzag, and ending in spines. Foliage small and of a glaucous green color. Fruits very variable in size, looks and shape; skin downy and thin, stones ranging in size from a cherry stone up to a good-sized apricot stone, of many forms, some round and quite smooth, others pointed or heartshaped and grooved like peach stones, shells moderately thin, kernels small on the average and quite bitter; they are, however, eagerly collected by ground squirrels. Here and there local Chinese also collect them and express a clear oil from the kernels for culinary purposes. These kernels are also sparingly eaten after having been boiled first so as to remove part of the bitter flavor. This Tangutian almond occurs in many places in the province of Kansu, growing at elevations from 4000 to 10000 feet. It is able to withstand a great amount of drought, cold and dry heat. It is recommended as a factor in certain hybridization experiments, to create hardy bush almonds. As a stock for almonds it might be tested, but since it throws up so many shoots from the base it may not have any commercial value for this purpose. As a hedge plant for dry regions it also possesses value, while as an ornamental spring flowering shrub it possibly could be employed in gardens and parks in the cooler parts of the semi-arid United States. Chinese name *Yeh hsiao hsing*, meaning 'wild small apricot,' also *Mao tao*'r meaning 'hairy peach.'" (Frank N. Meyer's introduction and description.)